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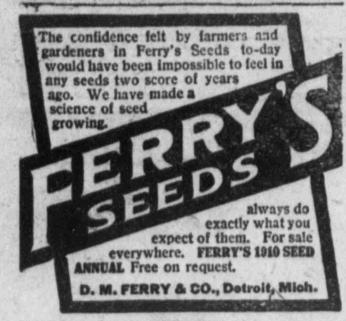
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## FILED FIRST CLAIM

Daniel Freeman Got Homestead Number One.

As a Soldier in Nebraska in 1862 He Took Advantage of the Law immediately After it Went Into Effect.

Lincoln, Neb.—When Daniel Freeman filed on the first free home provided for free men, at one minute past twelve o'clock on the morning of January 1, 1863, he inaugurated the history of homestead entries, which have since developed the western prairies into the heart of American agriculture. The Freeman home is at Brownville, Neb., on the quarter-section of



Freeman and His Home.

land for which the first patent was issued. He always regarded this old patent as one of the most interesting and valuable relics of American history. Its face indicates that Freeman made entry No. 1, his proof of residence was No. 1, his patent is No. 1, recorded on page No. 1 of book No. 1.

Freeman's name is linked with that of Galusha A. Grow of Pennsylvania, once speaker of the lower house of congress, and whose maiden speech in the house was on the subject of "Man's Right to the Soil." That speech was made in 1852, but it was not until ten years later that he was able to see his measure, the homestead law, recorded in the statute books.

Freeman at that time was a young soldier, detailed to perform a secret mission at Brownville, Neb., where the first United States land office was opened. The presence of many prospective settlers awaiting the opening January 1, 1863, of the land office, to take advantage of the homestead law, attracted Freeman to the idea of securing a free home. On December 30, however, he was ordered to report in St. Louis for a new assignment. To add to his troubles, January 1 was a legal holiday. The young soldier, nothing daunted, sought out James Bedford, who had charge of the government land office, and told him his troubles. Bedford agreed to sign the filing papers following the stroke of midnight the following night if Freeman could secure the consent of other prospective settlers to waive their right to make entries until the following day. All day December 31 Freeman sought out the settlers and secured their consent to the scheme, in order that he might get away New Year's morning. There was a dance at the town hall in the evening and at midnight all the young Beau Brummels repaired to the land office to see Uncle Sam's soldier become the first homesteader. The papers already

had been made up and were signed just after twelve o'clock. Freeman started at once for St. Louis and was able to visit the land but twice during the next three years, the law making special provision for soldiers.

In 1865 Freeman laid down his arms and took up the peaceful pursuit of agriculture on his claim. He built a log cabin as the first structure on the farm. On an adjoining claim lived a young woman with whom Freeman had become acquainted during his previous visits, and when the cabin was completed they were married and moved into the new home. Freeman was energetic, and from an open prairie homestead the quarter section was developed into the finest farm in Gage county. Additional land was purchased and Freeman became wealthy.

#### TYPIST IS OF ROYAL BLOOD

Third Lady of England Proves Her Interest in the Writing Machine to Be Real.

London.—Even the daughters of royalty do not scorn knowledge of useful occupations. Often we read of pretty and youthful princesses who have begun the study of some art, perhaps along domestic lines, cookery or sewing, or have finished a course in nursing, or can show a certificate testifying to their ability in some business line. The daughters of the late King Christian of Denmark, namely the Queen mother of England, the Dowager Empress of Russia and the Duchess of Cumberland, were taught to make all their own clothes and,



furthermore, to trim their hats. The Empress of Germany holds that a knowledge of children, kitchen and church is to be preferred before all other accomplishments and other members of royalty are proud of the fact that they have provided their children, as they grew up, with the means to gain proficiency in any useful line they chose to follow.

The latest student of royal blood in the business world is the 13-year-old daughter of King George, Princess Victoria Alexandra. This little lady, the only daughter in a family of six, became much interested in the typewriters in daily use where she resided. There are two lady typists attached to the secretarial staff of Marlborough house, which has been the King's residence, and finally the young princess declared her enthusiasm and asked one of them to give her the necessary instruction that she might operate a typewriter. She has learned to use the machine at a fair rate of speed. Now she plans to assist her mother, Queen Mary, regularly with her correspondence. Thus the third lady in England today, for her grandmother ranks second, is an accomplished little business woman in at least one line.

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Better Look Outside.

If you want to make the best of your life, don't spend much time in looking within and wondering if your feelings are all right, says Home Chat. Look outside instead, and see what you are doing for others, what you are saying about other people, how you are behaving to those around you. If you are behaving kindly and truly to your neighbor you will not go far wrong.

Since thou art not sure of a minute, do not throw away an hour,— Franklin.